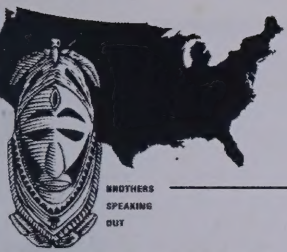
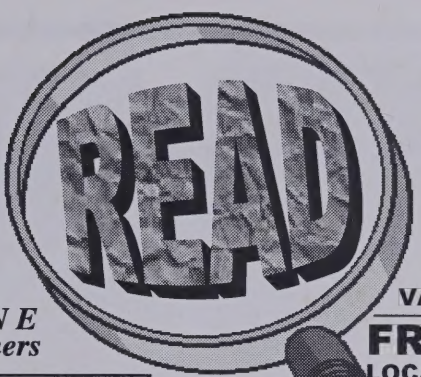


2ND
SUNDAY



2ND



\$2
VALUE
FREE
LOCALLY

December 1999
Vol. 4
No. 2

NEWSMAGAZINE
for brothers about brothers

SECOND SUNDAY • Post Office Box 78705 • Atlanta, Georgia 30357-2705 • (404) 325-7321

[URL] <http://www.SecondSunday.org> • [E-MAIL] PublicRelations@SecondSunday.org

2nd Sunday

giving the gift of self healing and pride

Holiday Issue

2ND
SUNDAY

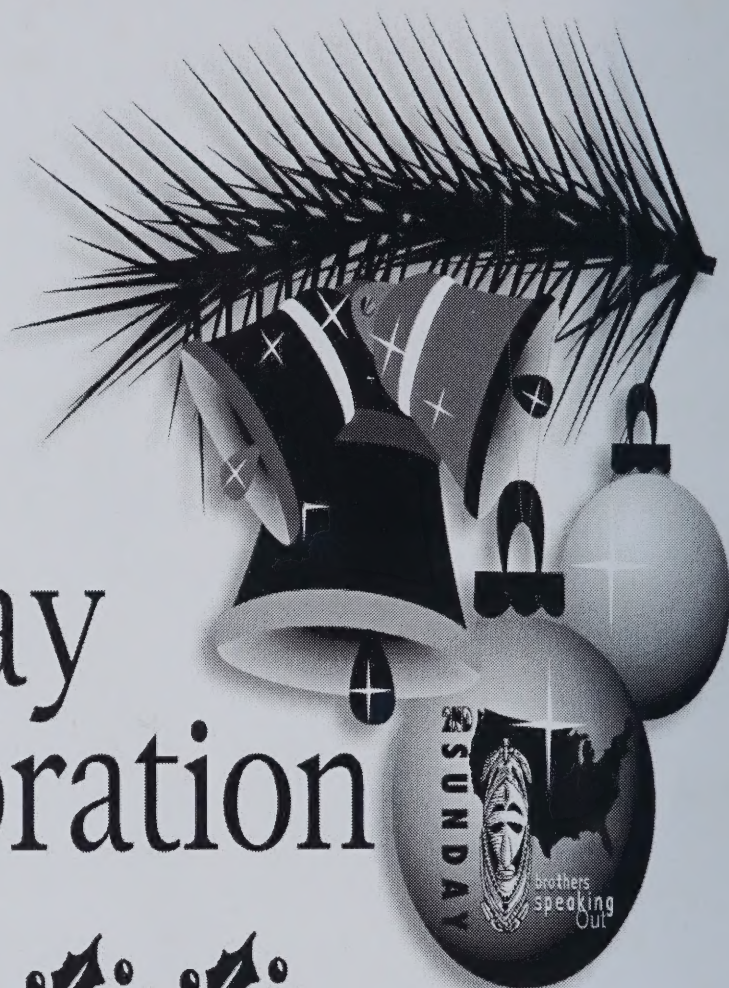


BROTHERS
SPEAKING
OUT

DISCUSSION MEETING

FOR SAME-GENDER-LOVING MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT

2nd Sunday Holiday Celebration



H A R A M B E

Let Us Come Together
&
Let Brotherly Love
Continue

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1999

6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

Lambda Center

828 West Peachtree Street • Atlanta, GA

Admission: 2ND SUNDAY Members FREE • Non-Members \$3.00

2ND READ

.....

Darrol C. De Andre
Publisher/Director, Public Relations

Richard S. Moultrie, Jr.
Chair/Editor, SECOND SUNDAY

Edwin Maurice Cook
Vice-Chair, SECOND SUNDAY

Contributing Writers

Craig Washington

Damon J. Murphy

Terrence Hooks

Ken Carey

Craig Johnson

Menelik Tefera

Malik M. L. Williams

David Vaughn

J. D. Guilford

Onyx Gold

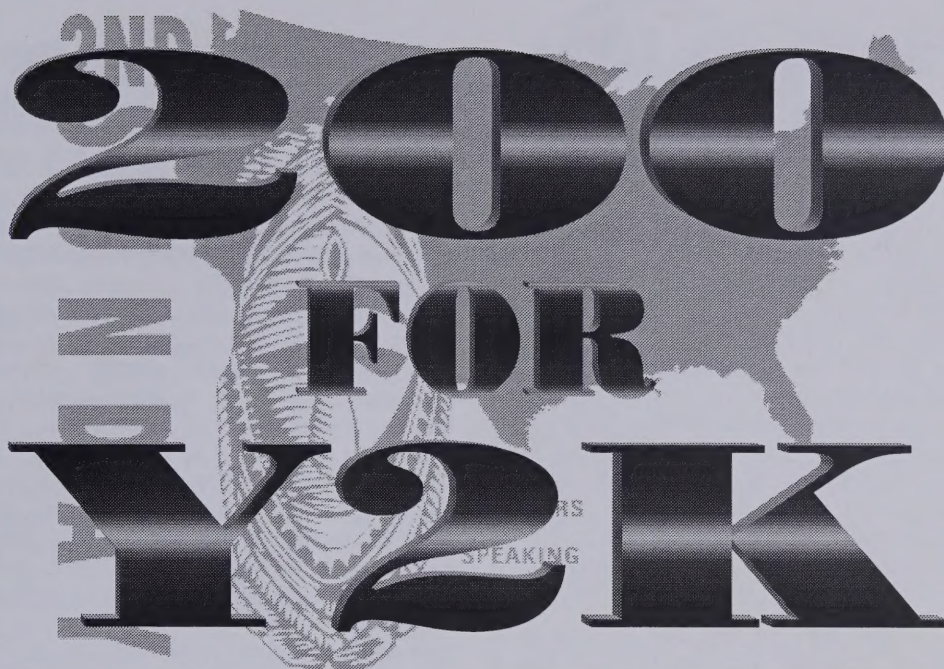
Ken Horton

Montee

Graphics/Layout

Darrol C. De Andre

Edwin Maurice Cook



INSIDE *THIS* ISSUE

- 2 **THE ART OF "HELLO"**
- 2 **A SOJOURN IN SOUTH AFRICA**
- 3 **THROWING SHADE: DO WE RESPECT EACH OTHERS RELATIONSHIP?**
- 4 **SECOND SUNDAY SUPPORTS AIDS WALK ATLANTA '99**
- 5 **LOST BOYS**
- 6 **BECOME A MEMBER ...GET INVOLVED!**
- 6 **200 FOR Y2K**
- 7 **MY RELATIONSHIP WITH SECOND SUNDAY**
- 8 **BUYING OR JUST RENTING?**
- 8 **FORTY-PLUS: GETTING HEALTHIER, STRONGER & WISER**
- 9 **NEW "KIDS" ON THE BLOCK**
- 9 **I AM MY BROTHAZ' KEEPER!**
- 10 **ON THE SCENE**
- 11 **CALL TYRONE**
- 12 **THE QUESTION OF FRIENDSHIP**

Announcements | Advertisements

Do you have interesting and relevant letters and articles that you want others to read? The Editor and Publishers of 2ND READ encourage you, our fellow members of SECOND SUNDAY and readers, to share your thoughts and opinions with us.

Send correspondence to:

2ND READ

c/o SECOND SUNDAY

Post Office Box 78705

Atlanta, Georgia 30357-2705

E-mail:

PublicRelations@SecondSunday.org

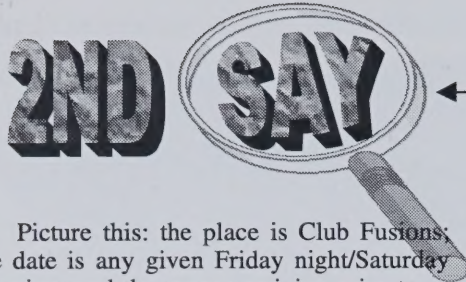
Phone:

(770) 435-5860

Fax:

(770) 435-1399

2ND READ is a newsletter published by the Public Relations Committee on behalf of SECOND SUNDAY. The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the publishers. Publication of a name or photograph of any person or organization is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization. If you want to respond to this newsletter please call us at 404.325.7321, or e-mail us at PublicRelations@SecondSunday.org



message from the **CHAIR - EDITOR**

richard s. moultrie, jr. **THE ART OF "HELLO"**

Picture this: the place is Club Fusions; the date is any given Friday night/Saturday morning; and the person arriving prior to or after midnight is you. You enter the club lobby and speak to two brothers standing just beyond the entranceway. Perhaps to your disappointment, but most probably not to your surprise, neither brother returns your greeting. They glare, briefly; examine your face, briefly; assess your fashions, briefly; and inspect your passing profile -- maybe not so briefly depending upon your frontal or rear end assets. Still, they do not utter a word in response to your friendly "hello."

If you are like me, this scenario is a familiar one. If you are not like me, I imagine that at least some acquaintance has described a similar experience to you. Whatever the case, I am making the point that brothers do not make it a habit to greet each other in public. And when they do, more often as not, the intent is to "pull up" or "hook up." It's almost as if saying "hello" has to be approached like an art form -- that is, it seems that it is critical that one cultivate a sixth sense for determining to

whom to speak in order to avoid embarrassment or rude behavior. Isn't it sad that we do not appear to appreciate the value of exchanging a "hello" solely for the sake of doing so? Is it really necessary that we experience physical attraction for a brother before we opt to offer a kind greeting to him? Many of us attend church services consistently and listen to sermons extolling the importance of the Golden Rule. We congregate in kitchens at parties bemoaning the difficulties in finding and keeping a good man. Then we coldly look the other way when a brother whom we do not know extends an introductory smile. Again, must saying "hello" be undertaken like an art form in which the perceived quality of the eyes, nose and mouth that accompanies the gesture determines whether the salutation deserves an acknowledgment?

Some folk even bounce up into 2ND SUNDAY meetings to intellectualize about spirituality and self-love, but cannot be prevailed upon to engage an unfamiliar brother in casual conversation. How often have you walked into the discussion room and been struck by the number of men who sit only a chair apart but, rather than chat

quietly, choose to look down at wrist watches, rearrange silver jewelry or stare ahead in silence? With so much occurring in our lives to create disharmony -- AIDS, dead end jobs, unhealthy relationships -- how can we miss the opportunity to provide a brother with a positive or polite word? You do not know what the brother is going through who enters behind you at a night club, takes the chair beside you at a 2ND SUNDAY meeting or hands you a cocktail at a house party. The pleasure of your "hello," without subterfuge or an ulterior motive, may make all the difference.

Now, it is true, when you stop to think about it, that the act of extending a "hello" to someone does not produce art; but it is an act that has the potential to represent beauty for the person who receives it. So do me a favor. When you next arrive for a 2ND SUNDAY meeting, or after taking your seat in the meeting room, turn to someone and say, "Hey brother, how are you?" "I'm glad you could make it tonight." "How was your week?" This courtesy, though uncomfortable for, or seemingly insignificant or even silly to you, may have just saved that brother's life. ■

the COMMUNITY BRIDGE

craig washington **A SOJOURN IN SOUTH AFRICA**

I was recently blessed with the opportunity to visit South Africa, a nation that has undergone some incredible changes and challenges. I learned so much during my 2-week stay, much of which has not even really sunken in. The deeper "life lessons" are much like time-release capsules that are absorbed more slowly and more fully, at their own pace. I hope to grow professionally and personally from this slow learning and I pray it will enrich my life and work.

The International Lesbian and Gay Association held its 19th World Conference from September 18th - 25th in Johannesburg, South Africa. I attended the conference as Co-Director of Southerners On New Ground and was accompanied by Pam McMichael, our Co-Director in Louisville, Kentucky and board member Termain Kyles. Founded by Black and White southern lesbians, Southerners On New Ground (SONG) builds movement for progressive social change across the South by developing models of organizing that connect race, class, gender and sexual orientation. We saw some important parallels between our work in the States and the unprecedented galvanization of gay liberation with anti-apartheid, anti-sexist and pro-labor movements in South Africa. The I.L.G.A. Conference provided a

vehicle through which we could connect with LGBT organizers from Africa and all over the world.

The Pre-Conference Institute on Africa featured reports about the legal status of homosexuality and other laws pertaining to LGBT rights; human rights issues; and building LGBT alliances. The Women's Institute allowed lesbians around the world to share their major needs, challenges and strategies in their regions. Pam connected with a number of sisters of all colors in this and other women spaces. Throughout the course of the week some of the standout workshops were "Political Economy of HIV/AIDS in Africa"; "LGBT Youth"; and "Racism, Sexism and Homophobia in South Africa". Evening events included several films about LGBT lives and cultures, staged storytelling and the Miss GLOW Vaal beauty pageant.

We held meetings with several, mostly Black LGBT organizers and activists. There was Pastor Nokuthula from Hope and Unity MCC who ministers to a mostly young congregation in Hillboro, a Black neighborhood that recalls Harlem. I was stilled by the soft voice of this Black lesbian warrior who once tried to self-convert to heterosexuality in order to conform. GLOW

(Gays and Lesbians of Witwatersrand) a mostly male volunteer organization (founded by Simon Nkoli) manages to provide youth outreach, HIV/AIDS counseling and outreach in the townships with a meager budget and a lot of heart. The prominent National Coalition on Gay & Lesbian Equality, a co-gender, Black-led political NGO (non-governmental organization), helped coordinate the integration of anti-racist and anti-homophobia work throughout the country. There is so much that we can learn from these African freedom fighters. You don't have to be an activist to appreciate their work. If you care about ending any identity oppression here then you should know about what is happening there.

The moments that resonated most were those that no workshop could create. Like the demonstration protesting the high-cost of AIDS drugs where one speaker had to delay his speech for the spontaneous outburst of glorious singing from youth organizers. Or the Soweto tour guide recalling how snipers occasionally fired at Winnie Mandela in her home as casually unpredictable as a rain

continued on page 3...





damon j. murphy THROWING SHADE: DO WE RESPECT EACH OTHERS RELATIONSHIPS?

As we know being a Black gay man is no easy chore in our society and finding someone to have a positive intimate relationship with can be an even bigger chore. So what happens when we see our friends finding that significant other? Do we help promote this new relationship in our friend's life or do we talk about the shortcomings of the new love interest and/or feel jealous that we haven't found that person yet. Do we doubt the relationship will last or secretly wish its demise or do we, out of surprise, buy the new couple free movie passes or a gift certificate at a restaurant? The question becomes what can we do to nurture Black gay male relationships? We know that society places strong taboos on male-to-male relationships, especially those involving African-American males. However, perhaps the most destructive force in our lives is the force we bring onto ourselves. I am issuing a call for Black gay men to think on a community-wide basis about how we view our intimate relationships. Many men I have come across this year seem to think that there is no happiness with another man. They say there is too much confusion in relationships between men. The response I tend to get is that "I'm just trying to get my freak on and stay single," or "I think eventually I'll marry a woman." One can argue that many brothers need to work on their own feelings of internalized homophobia, but even still, when two Black males enter into a relationship, our community needs to step to

the plate in making it a nurturing environment for those relationships to thrive.

"Why is this not happening as widely as it should in our community?" one might ask. There are a few reasons. First, many Black gay men have to work on internalized homophobia issues. Many have blocked themselves from seeing positive Black gay male relationships. We are not taught by our parents or society to date men. Thus many of us learn as we go along in life what to do, often with negative information in our minds. We do not see many, if any, positive images of ourselves reflected in television, movies, theater, music, and in our own neighborhoods. Many of us pull the negatives inside our consciousness and claim them for ourselves. For example, we accept the notion that our relationships with each other can't work! We often spread this negativity to people around us, sometimes without being conscious of it.

Second, we have issues around jealousy. Of course, this is a human trait. This is in no way limited to gay men of color, but the way we react to this type of feeling is an individual choice. If we see our friend or even an acquaintance involved with someone that we like for ourselves, it is not proper to curse their relationship or to sabotage it by creating problems. As a community, we need to learn to move past our needs and wish couples well. Support them by surprising them with a gift, sending them a card to express your happiness for them, or

just say something pleasant that will help promote positivity between them. Of course, we have no control over the details of their relationship; but wouldn't you appreciate the support of a friend and the (gay Black) community if you were experiencing something positive with a special someone? This is what we need to move toward. We cannot change what the African-American community or white gay community thinks of us; but we can change the way we think of ourselves. We cannot expect others to respect our relationships until we have done that for ourselves.

Additionally, we may not like the choice our friends make. This is not to suggest that we should be happy for brothers involved in relationships where they are abused physically, mentally or sexually. This calls for a different type of nurturing and support from the community. However, what I mean here is that if you don't like the choice a person makes, this should not mean that you do not support a positive relationship between a brother and his partner. Again, this requires that we move beyond our personal biases and wish the couple well. We often underestimate the power we have to make a conscious choice to help each other and in turn help ourselves become a stronger people. As we enter the millennium, it is up to Black gay men today to pave a stronger path for those people who will walk in our shoes well into the twenty-first century. ■

A SOJOURN IN SOUTH AFRICA, *continued from page 2...*

shower. Or the tear-welling image of Simon Nkoli's* name unfurling from a rooftop summoning applause from the South Africa Gay Pride marchers. Then there was the nightlife. Brothers from South Africa, Cape Town, and Zimbabwe were more than happy to show Termain and I the variety of nocturnal gay activity. We hit some hot mixed (gay and straight) clubs that offered live and boxed music (South African house

music worked me -- no doubt!!). I visited a jazz club where men (not particularly gay) drink and listen to jukebox jazz. In the clubs, brothers were extra friendly especially when they clocked our American accents. Some of this play is due no doubt to USA's immense socioeconomic clout worldwide. Not to mention that the currency exchange favors the American buck, 6 Rand to every 1 Dollar. I was never so conscious of my American

nationality, particularly in terms of privilege and status. I had to really check myself throughout my stay. Like the Sweet Honey In The Rock song, I asked myself "Are My Hands Clean?"

In a card filled with love and affection, I was advised to reflect on the true purpose behind my trip. Knowing me rather well, my "counsel" encouraged me to be still and the answers would come. I am learning the value of patience. Without seeking, I have already found a renewed, restored, recharged commitment to individual and universal liberation. ■

* Simon Nkoli was Africa's most beloved AIDS activist and a leading organizer and political prisoner. Simon displayed tremendous courage and vision throughout a life cut much too short by HIV disease.

Craig Washington is Co-Director of SOUTHERNERS ON NEW GROUND and a member of SECOND SUNDAY; he may be contacted at 404-249-8788 or you may email him at song4cw@aol.com

SONG

SOUTHERNERS ON NEW GROUND

Craig Washington
Co-Director

1447 Peachtree Street
Suite 1004
Atlanta, GA 30309

(404) 249-8788
fax (404) 249-1451
SONG4CW@aol.com

2ND ACT

a thanks from the **DIRECTOR, ACTIVITIES**

terrence hooks **SECOND SUNDAY SUPPORTS AIDS WALK ATLANTA '99**

The SECOND SUNDAY Activities Committee's AIDS WALK team says "thanks" to all of the brothers and sisters that helped support AIDS WALK Atlanta '99. For the past four years SECOND SUNDAY has joined together with thousands of people, despite our differences in age, gender, race, religion, or sexual orientation, to walk for HIV and AIDS. The Activities

Committee recognizes AIDS WALK Atlanta as the southeast's largest AIDS fundraiser. AIDS WALK Atlanta benefits AID Atlanta's programs for AIDS care, education and advocacy. The organization also helps to fund fourteen other AIDS prevention and service providers in the greater Atlanta area.

On the day of the AIDS walk SECOND SUNDAY's team of walkers arrived ready and anxious to support AIDS WALK

Atlanta. This year our team walkers turned out in significantly larger numbers than the previous year. We rallied together, fellowshiped with other supporters, took time to meet first time walkers and to reacquaint ourselves with familiar faces. The walk began full of enthusiasm and high energy. I encourage all of the readers out there unable to join us this year to consider doing so next year.

SECOND SUNDAY will continue to unify and take a stand against silence in the midst of the HIV and AIDS epidemic. This issue touches deeply within our families and communities because of brothers and sisters who are increasingly becoming infected with the virus at such alarming rates. They require our support. Therefore, we hope that you will continue to support our SECOND SUNDAY AIDS WALK team. As we approach a new millennium let us -- SECOND SUNDAY and the Community -- stand united. ■

SECOND SUNDAY TEAM



AIDS WALK ATLANTA '99



Continuing our commitment to the HIV/AIDS cause; actively supporting initiatives that provide services for HIV/AIDS prevention, education and activism. Helping to make a difference in the lives of men, women and children living with AIDS!

ken carey **LOST BOYS**

I am pretty sure that we all have heard the expression "It's a jungle out there!" Yes! It is a jungle out here. We all have deadlines to meet. Oh and don't forget that there are meetings to attend where minutes are kept but the hours lost. How many times have you rushed to get on the highway to only crawl one mile in twenty minutes? This is the senseless carnage that continues to grip our fair city. If your button has not been pushed it will soon. Here's one escape.

Earlier this month, we put together a hiking trip for the brothers of **SECOND SUNDAY**. When I thought about putting together the outing, I expected everything from "Yo, hiking! Well if I can't plug my Warren G's 2001 CD in something I can't go", or "I have to run to the Mall on Saturday", or "I've never been and anyway that's not me". Really, these are some of the excuses I prepared myself to hear. But instead of excuses, I got nothing but absence. Me bitter, of course not!

Ok, truthfully, the day of the trip I was very discouraged. From a sheet full of brothers who said they would come, only two showed up. Only two! Three additional brothers, well, 2 brothers and one brother's lover came along for the hike as well. It was six of us in total. We waited in the parking lot of the Lambda Center for about an hour to allow those who signed-up to arrive. I thought, "they'll be here, they're just running late." After an hour, the consensus of the group was to push on. I had a sense that this was something new and fun for the brothers who showed up. Everybody was getting into the groove of the trip. There was a sense of bonding that I had not felt in a long time. I promised a hiking trip and I was going to deliver.

Brothers, let me tell you this hiking trip was "Off da hook." Imagine this: the weather was a balmy 78 degrees; the sun was beaming down several extra degrees of warmth, begging us to strip off our layered J-Crew Mountain looks; and, just when we thought we would burn up from the walk and the heat, an occasional breeze whisked across Lake Allatoona cooling us off from the sweaty hike. One mile turned into six, and then eight. At one point, we were lost. We wondered whether we should turn around and go the short distance back to the camp or continue on trekking into the unknown? We plunged ahead!

Everybody was pulling for everybody. A tree had fallen over a stream and the only way to cross was over the tree. I first hesitated, but when the group assured me that I could do it not even a brother as fine as Taye Diggs could have stopped me. (Well, he could stop me for 3 minutes!) We

climbed huge rock formations and chased the grazing deer. We walked on the trail until somebody said, "Lets go here" and then everybody followed, not knowing where this new mini adventure would lead.

We setup camp at a ravine next to a stream with a small stone beach. It was a beautiful-breath-taking scene. The team of Spencer and Palmer got "2 snaps-up" for what we initially thought was over packing. They brought a blanket for sitting and for lunch they served turkey on croissants, with sesame chicken wings for hors d'oeuvres, bran muffins, and Ardens Garden juices -- I mean it was over the top! We sampled their delights, and offered our own. It was really a Thanksgiving! Ok, ok, you get the picture. We really enjoyed each other and had lots of fun. And just like all people of color, after the meal, we took a nap. We all piled onto

the lone blanket and cuddled and spooned like bear cubs in a den tucked away for a long winter's nap! You should see the pictures (smile)!

The hike was a success! The lack of participants made for a level of intimacy felt throughout the group that probably would not have existed otherwise. We were able to stop, look and feel nature bursting with its brilliant colors -- red, brown, green and yellow. And don't forget the other colors, black and white. When I think about our nap and the bodies, some Black and one white, intertwined on that blanket, I laugh out loud. It was a crazy scene. We were so free and open with one another. Although some of us were meeting for the first time, it was as if our spirits had met many years before. I felt warm. I felt peace knowing that I was able to be a part of something so expressive. ■

2ND
SUNDAY

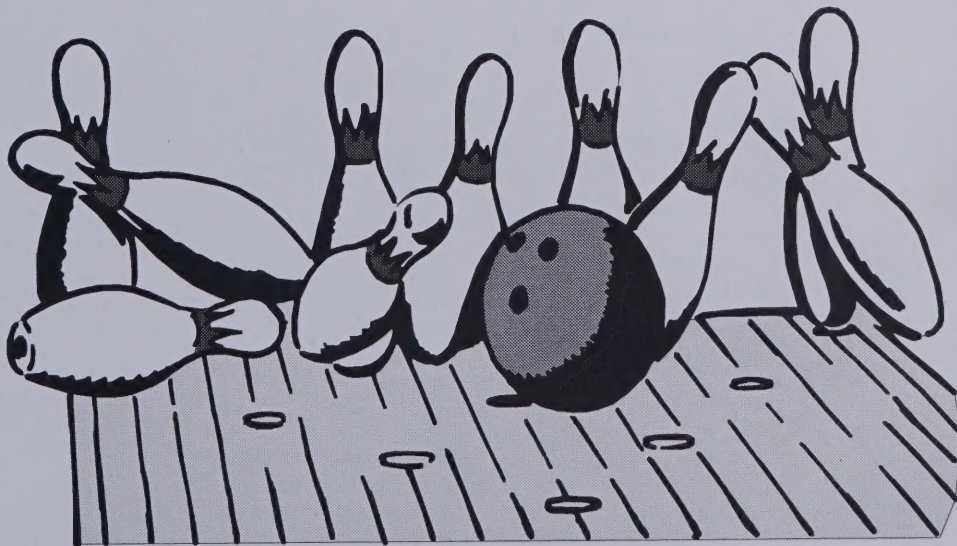


SECOND SUNDAY

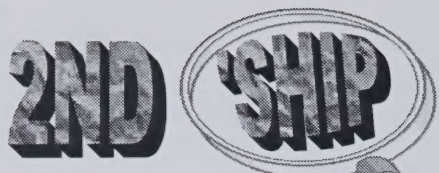
BROTHAS BOWLING NIGHT

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1999
11:00 P.M.**

For more information contact: Terry Hooks at (404) 892-7217



**EXPRESS BOWLING LANES
1936 Piedmont Circle, Atlanta (404) 874-5703**



from the **DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP**
craig johnson **BECOME A MEMBER ...GET INVOLVED**

religious, and educational backgrounds can meet and exchange ideas.

My brothers for us to stay in existence and keep doing the work needed to be done in our community we need you. We need you to become a member and get involved. Involvement is the key to our existence because without you there is no SECOND SUNDAY. Your voice and ideas are needed and must be heard. If you are a brother who feels that SECOND SUNDAY is not meeting a particular need tell us what that need is, only by voicing that need and getting involved will we be able to meet that need. SECOND SUNDAY has had its share of criticism, some deserved but most by brothers who aren't involved in the organization. By becoming a member and getting involved you will have first hand knowledge of all of what goes on inside SECOND SUNDAY. A lot of brothers always ask what am I getting for my membership fee besides a membership card and refreshments and to be honest the only answer I can give them now is a space to discuss and exchange ideas with other Black same gender loving men. Also, I tell them that their money is supporting an organization for them by them. My brothers this is your opportunity to have a voice in what goes on in the Black same gender loving community. If you don't like what's going on become a member get involved and make changes, don't just sit back criticize

and do nothing.

SECOND SUNDAY is an organization for brothers by brothers that has much to offer you and you have much to offer us. We need brothers with experience in all fields for our committees. We need brothers that can take charge when needed and do what may be asked of them to do for the benefit of the organization. What SECOND SUNDAY needs are brothers who want to be involved not for personal hidden agendas but to see the organization thrive for the betterment of our community. Be a brother that takes action or that sees action is taken, for if you are not part of the solution then you're part of the problem. The lack of involvement not just in SECOND SUNDAY but in our community in general is one that must be rectified. We as Black same gender loving men can no longer sit back and think that someone else is going to do for our community what we need to do for our community. There's a saying that everything starts at home, well think about SECOND SUNDAY as your home and start helping us help our community by becoming a member. Being a member of SECOND SUNDAY does have its responsibilities, one to yourself and to your community; take pride that we are doing for ourselves and that the brothers after us have something they can pass on to the generation after them. Become a member by getting involved and doing something. ■

Brothers of SECOND SUNDAY, in the past few months you have seen notices in your 2ND READ and 2ND SUNDAY programs advertising 200 for Y2K. This is a membership drive program for the year 2000. It is our goal that in the new millennium we increase our membership to an all time high of 200 registered members. In 1998 SECOND SUNDAY had a membership of 150 members but for some reason in 1999 our rolls dropped by over 100. It is our goal to gain those 100 brothers back and add 100 more. We want to show that there is power in numbers and that Atlanta's Black same-gender-loving community is active. To do this we need you. With a strong membership of 200, SECOND SUNDAY is more likely to be awarded grants to continue programs like MY BROTHAZ KEEPER, a support group for brothers 18-24, to host special guest speakers, and to do outside workshops. Many of you come to our general meetings but are not members. My question to you is why not join? If you enjoy our monthly discussion and the socialization after the meetings, think of the fulfillment you'll get from being a member. A lot of brothers are under the misconception that being a member automatically



"outs" you to the public, but that is not so! Brothers behind the scene do a lot of the work. Of course, the choice to occupy a higher profile position is available as well. We do ask that you get involved but only to the level of your comfort. 200 for Y2K is not a hard goal to reach, it just takes the willingness of many of you to step up to the plate and get involved. With more members more can be done for our community. With few members it takes a longer period of time

to get that work done. SECOND SUNDAY wants to continue doing positive things for the brothers in Atlanta but for us to do so it's going to take you and brothers like you. So when you see a brother who you know is already a member ask him how you too can become one. Also, contact us by email at Membership@SecondSunday.org or call us at 404-325-7321. This is your organization, so become a member. ■

2ND FORUM

TOPIC of the MONTH

menelik tefera MY RELATIONSHIP WITH SECOND SUNDAY

It was almost four years ago when I moved from Los Angeles. Within a few months of my arrival, a friend told me about a 2ND SUNDAY meeting and asked me to join him. At first I was not sure if this would be something I would be interested in attending as he did not have enough information about this group and I did not know what to expect. However, as I was curious and open-minded, I decided to attend. To my surprise, I really enjoyed myself and couldn't wait until the next meeting.

About a year and a half ago, Robert Mathis invited me to attend the Topics Committee meeting. Like others also invited, I was not sure if I wanted to attend since I believed that I might be asked to participate on the committee. As Robert was persistent, I agreed to attend. Once again I was quite impressed with the dynamics of

the group; therefore, I ended up joining the Topics Committee. Six months later I was elected Associate Director to the Director, Victor Stewart. Victor and I have become very good friends due to our love and commitment to SECOND SUNDAY. Recently, I was elected Director of the Topics Committee. I know it is not going to be a simple task to fill Victor's shoes but I will do my best. Thank you Robert and Victor for your continuous support and for making me a part of this great organization.

Just the other day Ulester Douglas, the organization's advisor and a former Co-Chair, commented on how far I have come with SECOND SUNDAY. He went on to say that I appeared relaxed, as I was in my gym attire (he first saw me in my suit), and that he never thought I would get so involved. I expressed my love for SECOND SUNDAY and explained that there is a time

when we need to give back to our community. I find SECOND SUNDAY to be a place where one can share knowledge and experience, a place to make friends, a place to support each other and a place to be true to one's self.

Finally, the Topics Committee and the Activities Committee will be working together to host the Holiday Celebration on December 12th. We invite you to join us for this year-end party to celebrate our brotherhood, and the friendships, and blessings we have experienced throughout the year. This will also be the perfect occasion to renew your membership or join, and volunteer your services to SECOND SUNDAY. Let us come together, letting brotherly love continue, so that SECOND SUNDAY will ever provide the gift of self healing and pride for our brothers and our community in the life. ■

The BGMT staff offers thanks to the Men of SECOND SUNDAY for their support throughout the year. With solemn wishes for a happy and joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year, our show of appreciation to you this holiday and throughout the millenium year 2000 is reduced cover when you present your current SECOND SUNDAY membership card and party with us at Club FUSION.

**Peace, Blessings and much Thanks,
Reggie Thomas /BGMT**

FUSION's MILLENNIUM 2000 CELEBRATION

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Thursday
& Sunday nights
"Ebony Flesh
Male Review"

December 10th
- BGMT / Fusion's -
Tree Trimming
Celebration

December 17th
- BGMT / Fusion -
Winter White
Party

December 31st
New Year's Eve
Celebration

Doors open @ 11:30 P
- Showtime 12:30 A
- Emcee Maxine Blue

Every 1st Friday: \$5.00 Admission B4 1:00 A - 1/2 off Drinks
Every 2nd, 3rd, 4th Fridays: \$5.00 Admission B4 12:30 A - Drink Specials

Classic House Music early every night in the Mainroom

FUSION: 550-C Amsterdam Ave., Midtown/Atlanta (404) 872-6411
visit us at www.chocolatecityusa.com - click on BGMT

SECOND SUNDAY Members
receive reduced cover
for all events

Events Promoted by
Reggie Thomas





Brothers, we don't buy enough. Let's be clear: we spend all the time. We pay rent -- and not just for our apartments, lofts and cars, but also for our life experiences. We "put in our time" for a paycheck. We shovel out our money for perishable material goods. We barter our bodies for momentary affection. We rent.

We need to realize we have choices in our lives, always. We don't have to keep giving away everything we have -- and everything we are -- with nothing to show for it. We can make choices that will benefit us not just for a moment, but forever. We can buy instead of renting.

"Do you have a job?" How many brothers would immediately jump up and answer, "yes!" to the question. All right, what about a career or a business of your own? What is the difference? A job pays your bills. A job may even buy you many things you like but do not need. Nevertheless, a job cannot buy you satisfaction and fulfillment. Do you enjoy your job? If not, you are renting your paycheck instead of buying your success.

What do you want to do more than anything else? If you don't know yet, take some time to figure it out. Then figure out how to make your passion work for you. The people with the most successful careers are those who get paid to do what they would gladly do for free. If you are doing what you love, and someone is paying you to do it, you are buying into your career.

How do you spend your money? Do you have a nice car? A fabulous wardrobe? A beautiful apartment? Will you still have those same items 20 years from now? Or even five? If you are not

putting your money into anything permanent, you are renting your present instead of buying your future.

How much money do you save and invest? Most of the common wisdom I have heard over the years suggests that we should save ten percent of our earnings right off the top. Don't think you make enough money to save ten percent? Well, how much less will you have years from now if you do not keep something along the way? It is critical that you pay yourself first. If you are setting aside part of your income, you are buying into your later years.

How do you behave in your relationships with other men? Do you focus on appearances and stereotypes? Are you "shopping" for a certain type of man, ignoring anything that is not on your list? Do you fall in love every time the sex is good? Do you expect him to fall in love if you "hit it" right? If you allow yourself to be caught up in the exterior elements of your relationships, you are renting pleasure instead of buying fulfillment.

Who is there when you need to stop playing games and be yourself? The person you need most in your life may be sitting next to you. So, you don't want to think about dating your best friend. Start thinking about the qualities that make him your friend. Maybe the next time you encounter a brother with those same qualities, you will find a reason to linger beyond "hello." Perhaps you will think about what you have to offer that is more than a sexual thrill. If you are looking past the surface, you are buying into a deeper love.

This is your life. Are you living it for the long run? How much do you value yourself? How much are you investing in yourself? What are you willing to do to own yourself? We all have choices. Are you ready to buy? Or are you still paying rent? ■

a look inside MEN 40-PLUS

david vaughn **FORTY-PLUS: GETTING HEALTHIER, STRONGER & WISER**

Forty-Plus has spent the bulk of 1999 learning quite a lot about staying healthy, exercise, relationships and investing. The real plus of **Forty Plus** is that, not only are we 35 and older with interests quite different from those much younger, but we are learning more and more about ourselves each day. Each month we focus on topics that help us to become better people. This month's topic, Financial Planning, was no less important than the others.

Financial Planning is a topic that people thought was so broad and so foreign that they weren't sure how they would feel about the subject. However, for **Forty-Plus**, financial planning took on several pertinent meanings. First of all, financial planning requires you to get your house in order by becoming aware of what your financial obligations are, what you owe and what you can spend on yourself. Do you live from paycheck to paycheck? What can you do to change your situation? Having a financial planner or a financial counselor can assist you with discovering your financial situation. Those who are over their heads with debt need to consult with a credit counseling service to assist them in getting out of debt and to plan to become

better off financially. What is so significant about this topic is that after taking a few surveys, we found that 70% of our members don't have a will, haven't seriously looked at investments and haven't thought about their future financial health.

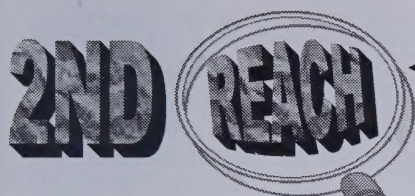
On another note, we have witnessed many of our brothers succumb to AIDS and be sent home for burial because they didn't take care of their insurance needs. Some families feel very ambivalent about that. Some families didn't have the money to deal with the situation at all. We should not be a burden to our families or loved ones. We need to see to it that we have proper insurance, not only for our health needs but to take care of our final bow as well. We discovered that most of us had insurance with our jobs and only with our jobs. It was strictly dependent on our continuous relationship with our employers. Once the relationship was over, whether you quit or were fired, the insurance usually stopped. We recommend that you get your own policy to cover you whether it is whole life or term life as well as disability insurance. With our new life styles -- that is, practicing safer sex, eating right, drinking less and



eliminating the drugs -- we will probably live a lot longer. We need to prepare for the long life ahead; not only through insurance, but by preparing for our financial security as well.

Just like the tithing that churches follow, we should pay ourselves by saving a set amount of our income every month or every payday. There are many ways to do it. 401-K programs are perhaps best known to us because they permit you to save through your job. Many employers also match a portion of your contribution to a 401-K plan. IRAs through banks or investment houses, Roth IRAs and mutual funds are savings plans that will prove to be great investments in the long run also. Money markets and stocks and bonds provide other investment opportunities, but require a certain amount of research before you invest. Whatever you do, there are many convenient ways of investing; such as, through the assistance of financial counselors, the Internet and brokerage houses. Fees for the services are so low that nearly all brokerage houses offer the same services for you. As a result of the

continued on page 12...



OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF MY BROTHAZ KEEPER

j. d. guilford **NEW "KIDS" ON THE BLOCK**

I was picked up on Forsyth Street, walking from the Atlanta Library to Five Points Station. A black Mercedes sidled up beside me – slick as silver – chrome rims, tinted windows, its engine purring like a cat. Ron (I'll call him Ron because I can't remember his name) drove a few blocks. The usual small talk: Age? Occupation? Top or bottom? In retrospect, I can see the danger. But then, in the moment, it was pure unfiltered fantasy. Then, it was my wildest dream. An attractive Black man with a shiny car and deep brown eyes had propositioned me for sex. I was young and gay and excited and shy. What did I know of bashers? Of stunt queens? Of herpes? Chlamydia? AIDS? I was one of the new boys – fresh meat – and Ron had sniffed me out like the stealthiest of hunters.

He parked behind a dumpster in an abandoned parking lot. It was ten p.m. on a moist September's night and I was about to have my first "experience." As luck would have it, however, a police car flashed its quick white beams just as Ron placed his hand on my inner thigh. "Damn it!" I remember thinking. After a lecture and parking ticket from "Officer Friendly," Ron dropped me off at the Five Points MARTA station. We went our separate ways.

Years later, after I'd cruised Cypress and trudged the trails of Piedmont Park – eyes quarter-round, snapping pictures like a

Polaroid – after many baptisms under the pulsating strobes of Loretta's and Traxx, after wasting hour upon hour negotiating the lines of City Chat Central, I met others like me: men who were once young and fresh. Men who thought they were the only one. Since my almost tryst with Ron, I'd learned that mine was not the only such tale.

During long 3:00 a.m. talks we exchanged stories, tossing them to a pile like poker chips. And the stories all carried the same basic theme: meeting an older, more experienced man (at the club, on the street); getting in his car (whereupon he took me to his house); his trying to (or succeeding in) have sex with me. Some of us had things to show for it, shimmery trinkets with grandiose names like Tag, Prada, Bravado, and D&G. Still, these baubles were not adequate compensation. Our naivete had been usurped. We were taken advantage of.

As a 24 years old college graduate, I am one month into my first intimate relationship that did not begin under the auspice of sex. Having been in the life for more than five years, I am a bit older and much wiser. I know the "trix" from the trade, the trade "trix," and the trade turning "trix." I've learned the rules of the game. Although I am only 24, my playtime is over.

There are new boys on the scene now. With IDs as fake as Milli Vanilli, the latest kids cross the threshold of the club. They call the chat lines, horny and blithe, boasting hazel brown eyes and foot long penises.

They stroll Cypress, invincible as we all were at that stage, hips swiveling as cunt as she dares, or buried under layers of baggy denim, serving B-boy trade. Or worse still, shirtless and hungry-eyed, they walk. Hustling.

"Being gay is a sin," some say. "Convert!" "Casual sex is immoral!" "Chastity until commitment!" "Stop crusin' and stay out of the club!" Upon realizing the cycle of involution that is Black, gay life in Atlanta, upon realizing what is happening to this new generation of gay men to be, we've all adopted one or more of these mantras. Yet the problem is not with the sex, it is the way in which we, as young men, are initiated into this lifestyle: (1) Meet a man; (2) Exchange stats; and (3) Have sex.

Fortunately, there are venues such as 2ND SUNDAY and MY BROTHAZ KEEPER affording us alternatives to Cypress, "the trails" and "the line." In these gatherings, we are beginning to discuss relationships, homophobia, heterophobia and discrimination within our own community. At free clinics and private hospitals, we are being tested for venereal diseases. We are asking our partners those hard questions, such as "How many people have you slept with before me?" If we are ever to break this cycle of initiation by sex, we must teach our newly found children and ourselves a new way of being. In order to grow to fill the breath and depth of our personhood we must learn the import of self-esteem and self-love. ■

onyx gold I AM MY BROTHAZ' KEEPER!

I was asked to write something on behalf of MY BROTHAZ KEEPER. So I agreed. Recently someone responded to a personal ad that I placed on the Internet. The person, not knowing anything about me, wrote very graphically that he wanted to have sex. He told me he was sexually active with his uncle and he liked it. I don't wish to judge because for all I know, his uncle is his same age. That does happen a lot in our society today (uncles being nephews). Well I just ignored it and didn't respond. Well the person wrote again so I decided to advise him. The shocker is that this person is only 15 years old. Usually I have a problem meeting men in my age group. They are usually in there 30s and 40s. That's why I indicated in my personal ad that I was looking for someone between 17 and 25. Well I am my brother's keeper, so I told this person that what they are doing is very dangerous. I informed him about the realities of STDs, homophobes and desperate old men. I further informed the young man that because of our age

difference (I am 20), the only thing that we could be at this time is friends.

The person responded back and let me have it! He told me that I'm the one with AIDS; that I shouldn't be soliciting sex over the Internet; and that I can't handle a 15 year old. He then ended by telling me that I have a three inch dick. Such language! I responded to this young man again and corrected him quickly. It seems that even "babies" only see sex. I simply said in my ad that I was in search of quality people. I also placed in there that I would be willing to talk to people coming to terms with issues concerning their homosexuality. I don't know where he got the idea that my ad was about sex. I have been approached by men in there 30s and 40s who have money. I have been approached to be a model for La Mancha videos (they make excellent videos... I love Kiko and Tiger). In other words, if I wanted to have sex and use people, I have had plenty of opportunities to do so. However, the sad thing is that this

young man is going to respond to someone older who may take what he is offering. The sad thing is that this boy is going to be used for sex and thrown away. This boy is at risk for AIDS, poverty and a broken heart if he continues on his current path. I know because I've been there. I just thank GOD that I'm still here today and that I met people that actually cared about me and not my body parts. Will this boy be so lucky?

If you are a grown up, the next time you have the opportunity to have sex with a 15 year old boy think of how much of a man you really are. If you are 30 or 40, what do you want with a 15 year old? The only thing you should be concerned about is helping him realize that gay isn't synonymous with "Ho". I AM MY BROTHAZ' KEEPER! ■



ken horton **ON THE SCENE****THREE KINGS**

--Warner Bros.

"Three Kings" will go down in movie history as one of the first films that focuses on the Gulf War. The story actually begins at the end of the conflict. Sergeant Major Archie Gates (played by that fine white boy George Clooney) and a couple of his troops (Mark Wahlberg and rapper Ice Cube) get their hands on a map that illustrates secret locations of bountiful gold that Saddam Hussein has stolen from Kuwait (you won't believe where they find this map!). Gates and the gang go on a daylong action-filled adventure to get the prize gold with the intentions of leaving the Gulf War as rich men. On their way to retrieve the goodies, the three soldiers witness first hand the destructive results of the war effort. The U.S. encouraged the Iraqi people to stand against Saddam and pledged support, but got slaughtered when no American support was given. The three "kings" are soon torn between their greed and humanity. I hesitate to call this movie a dark comedy, but it has some pretty dark humor nonetheless. The use of comedy to make some serious points entertains as well as educates the viewer. The action is classic shoot'em up, pow-pow, and should satisfy the bloodthirsty types in the audiences. This show will cause political debates in all types of settings. Speaking as a participant of Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the movie failed to really capture the true essence of the conflict. Even after the war was over, the misery alone could have made an intriguing story itself. Overall, this movie is worth the \$4.50 I paid to see it (matinee is the way to go, fellas).

SEX TIPS FOR STRAIGHT WOMEN FROM A GAY MAN

--Regan Books

I know for a fact my brothers, that most of you have a "Judy." You know, a straight female friend. Say one day that you and your "Judy" are just sitting around, shooting the breeze, and the topic of sex with men comes up. Next thing you know, you two are comparing notes about how you do this and how she does that, and before you know it, you gave away trade secrets to the enemy. Well that's what author Dan Anderson did on the highest level when he co-wrote "Sex Tips for Straight Women from a Gay Man" with Maggie Berman. Some of the tips are so elementary, I can't believe that there are straight women out there that are not aware of some of the techniques of getting the man and hanging on to him. For example, there is a section called "Let Me See Your Tan Lines." Gay men are masters at coming up with simple lines to get guys to shed their clothes (I hear). A good line for that fine delivery boy: "My purse is in my bedroom." Or that poor unsuspecting guy at the club: "I have to go, will you walk me home/drop me off." Oh, and

let's not forget the stuffy accountant: "Let me get that thread off your pants."

Then there's the basic knowledge section. A shower before sex is an absolute must. In a past life it might not have mattered, but your hands, mouth, tongue, and nose will be in some pretty wild places and for long periods of time (I hear). Hot and sweaty after sex is fantastic, but before is a no-no. There are tips about men naming their penis (no pun intended). Just play along when "Mr. Happy," "Little Elvis," "Mad Dog," or "George," comes a-knocking (not to knock on George though, George was a hottie!) The book is a great read for those who are totally green in the sack. Gay guys who are not quite up to snuff in the "pleasing your man" department can use it. I must admit that I am a little PO'd with Dan for writing this book and you should be too. Hell, it's hard enough to find and maintain a one-on-one relationship with a guy as it is without Danny Boy spilling trade secrets. What if your man gets snatched up by one of these trollops who now are equipped to please your man as well as you can. He might even turn into one of those bisexuals (a.k.a. confused sissies who will screw anything that breathes). So my brothers, I encourage you to keep quiet about techniques like the "Upstanding Citizen," the "Princeton Belly Rub," and my personal favorite, the "Combo Platter." If you are not familiar with these techniques go get the book or come see me. The illustrations by Luna are drawn in a scientific, but not explicit manner.

"MARY", MARY J. BLIGE

--(MCA)

It has been almost two years since hip-hop queen Mary J. Blige recorded a studio album. She has kept busy, making appearances on the CDs of other superstars. Some of the favors are returned by some of those superstars on her latest album "Mary." On this work she welcomes Aretha Franklin, Babyface, Eric Clapton, ex-honey boo K-Ci Hailey of K-Ci and JoJo, DMX, Nas, and Sir Elton John (Sir? HA!). Blige is not singing about how her heart gets broken over and over this time. "All That I Can Say" is a happy song; she sings, "Loving you is wonderful/Something like a miracle." In the same sense, "Beautiful Ones" is a love song that tugs at the heartstrings. There's a little sadness on this CD. The brilliant, "The Love I Never Had," is an anthem of strength. She blows out "I Gotta Wake UP!" while Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis conduct a funky band in the background. Mary is on the fast track of moving away from the hip-hop flavor that made her famous. She remains the queen of hip-hop. Whether singing next to the guitar of Clapton or the piano of Elton, the girl can sing her butt off.

"I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the brothers of SECOND SUNDAY a happy and safe holiday season." ■

Like a 1st impression, you don't get a 2nd chance to capitalize on a missed opportunity. For the wanna-be-savvy marketers and media buyers who missed this month's chance to reach your target market through advertising in 2ND READ, you don't want to make the same mistake twice.

2ND READ IS WHERE YOU WANNA BE!

FOR INFORMATION AND RATES CALL 770.435.5860

2ND CALL

CALL TYRONE

11

what's on your mind?

Hello Tyrone:

My name is Miles. For six months I have been dating this guy named Donny. When I met him I fell head over heels immediately. He is active in the gay community, he is out to his parents, and he volunteers at a Children's home. He seemed terrific! For the first couple of weeks after we met we spent all of our time together. Then, overnight, he began insisting on spending more of his time with his friends. And, even now when we do go out, he rarely asks what I want to do. He liked to go to Jazz clubs. I like Sports Bars. I like to spend the weekend watching football. He prefers to get up early on Saturday mornings and spend the whole day running all over the city. I do want to prove to Donny that I can be flexible and enjoy some of the things he likes to do. So very often I end up in a place or involved in an activity of his choosing. But it is really beginning to bother me that he never considers my feelings. What do you think, Tyrone?

--Miles

Dear Miles:

Why should he? Think about it: doesn't it seem like Donny is in the relationship all by himself? In other words, I would bet my Railroad retirement check that Donny would better appreciate you if you asserted your own identity and personality more often. No one wants to feel as if he is in a relationship by himself. And that is how this situation sounds to me - it sounds as if Donny decided where and when you all spend time together, alone; decides at which restaurants you will dine, alone; and among other things, probably decides if and how often you have sex...again, alone. So I ask you, why does Donny need you? Miles, learn this lesson and learn it fast my friend; if you do not honor yourself, others will not honor you either; if you do not set boundaries on and limits for how you wish to be treated, people will use you for a door mat; and if you show no interest in respecting yourself, your lover,

friends, co-workers and any one else with whom you interact will eventually ignore you. I suggest that you sit down with Donny, look him square in the eyes, admit to him the role you have played in how he has treated you, and then firmly explain that you no longer intend to be a silent partner in your "love corporation." If the brother is unwilling to accept or adapt to this change run - do not walk - to the stereo, pull out all the Anita Baker and Chante Moore CDs you can grab, find a quiet place to lick your wounds, and start preparing yourself to do better the next time with someone else. You may have created a mess, but you damn sure don't have to sit in it!

--Tyrone

Hello Tyrone:

I have lived in the ATL for many months and have yet to make any male friends. I have never had a problem making friends with females, but can't seem to replicate such success with brothas; even after attending several 2ND SUNDAY functions. The fact that I am attractive only seems to complicate things, because the only brothas who talk to me are those that want to be more than friends... ASAP.

I admit that I am not a very outgoing person, and have been told that I come off as "snobbish" and "unapproachable." But, nearly everyone who's gotten to know me says I'm "lovable" and "really sweet." And my reserve doesn't seem to deter any sexual advances! "Whenever I go out I see tons of brothas with their boys and it makes me frustrated and depressed. I am sick of bedhopping and tired of being alone. PLEASE answer me, I really want to know what I should do!

--Lovable and Lonely

Dear Lovable and Lonely:

I hear you brotha, and you are not alone. There is an answer for you and I think it will help you and anyone else searching for friendship and camaraderie

instead of sex. Like attracts like. If the only men you meet are interested in being sex partners, then my question is: what are you doing that would create such an aura? You signed your letter, "Lovable and Lonely," so perhaps this is a striking example of you seeking love (in any form) to combat your loneliness. Again, examine your actions and motives to determine why you are experiencing the results that you have had thus far.

As a visitor of 2ND SUNDAY, one solution to help ease you into a friendship circle is to approach any of the Executive Board members and give them some feedback on that Sunday's topic. This could help break the ice and possibly garner an invitation to many of the informal gatherings that occur after a 2ND SUNDAY meeting. Above all, we must be willing to do the soul work required. Go within, see what you are truly desirous of, and determine whether you may need to change your focus.

I also encourage you to attend Hillside Chapel and Truth Center. Many of the 2ND SUNDAY brothers attend this church, as well as the Unity Fellowship Church. As my grandmother taught me, if you just want any man you go anywhere to find him. But, if you want a man to treat you right, you will find him where he expects to be treated right.

Good luck in your journey. We love you, we appreciate you, and we thank God for you. PEACE.

Tyrone ■

Tyrone is interested in hearing what's on your mind, and helping you deal with the issues of life. Write him at **SECOND SUNDAY**, Attn.: 2ND READ, Post Office Box 78705, Atlanta, Georgia 30357-2705. Or e-mail him at:

PublicRelations@SecondSunday.org

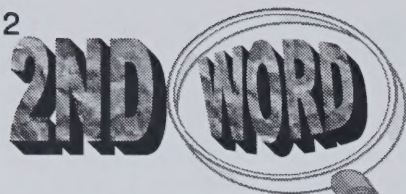
Please note that these responses are not prepared by a professional staff, and the responses provided in this column are intended for entertainment purposes only.

FORTY-PLUS: GETTING HEALTHIER, STRONGER & WISER, continued from page 8...

Internet, where fees are rock bottom, brokers and financial planners now recognize the competition and realize that they make money only when you do. What **Forty-Plus** is saying is that no matter what, you should save now for that rainy day. We procrastinate too much. When it comes to saving, we spend first and save whatever we can later. We should save first and then spread the rest to our creditors.

Members of **Forty Plus** are better off since we examined the subject of financial security. We recommend that all Brothers and Sisters examine their financial state of health and begin to prepare for a better future. Our economy is doing great now and we should be taking advantage of the opportunities that are available to us. Saving and investing is not a gay thing. It is a wise thing. We should be brilliant about all

matters that concern our financial health. For more information, join us every 4th Sunday, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. where men of color, over 35, discuss these and other important issues. You may also contact us at 404-325-7321 or email Robert Mathis, the group's Director, at Forty-Plus@SecondSunday.org



last words from **PUBLIC RELATIONS** montee **THE QUESTION OF FRIENDSHIP**

As we approach the last holiday season of this millennium, let us prepare to take inventory of our "simple friends" versus our "real friends." Some of you all may have already received this via email, but I thought it would be fun to submit it in **SECOND SUNDAY's** NewsMagazine for those not yet connected to the World Wide Web.

Anyone can stand by you when you are right, but a Friend will stand by you even when you are wrong...

A simple friend identifies himself when he calls.

A real friend doesn't have to.

A simple friend opens a conversation with a full new bulletin on his life.

A real friend says, "What's new with you?"

A simple friend thinks the problems you whine about are recent.

A real friend says, "You've been whining about the same thing for 14 years.

Get off your ass and do something about it."

A simple friend has never seen you cry.

A real friend has shoulders soggy from your tears.

A simple friend doesn't know your parents' first names.

A real friend has their phone numbers in his

address book

A simple friend brings a bottle of wine to your party.

A real friend comes early to help you cook and stays late to help you clean.

A simple friend hates it when you call after he has gone to bed.

A real friend asks you why you took so long to call.

A simple friend seeks to talk with you about your problems.

A real friend seeks to help you with your problems.

A simple friend wonders about your romantic history.

A real friend could blackmail you with it.

A simple friend, when visiting, acts like a guest.

A real friend opens your refrigerator and helps himself.

A simple friend thinks the friendship is over when you have an argument.

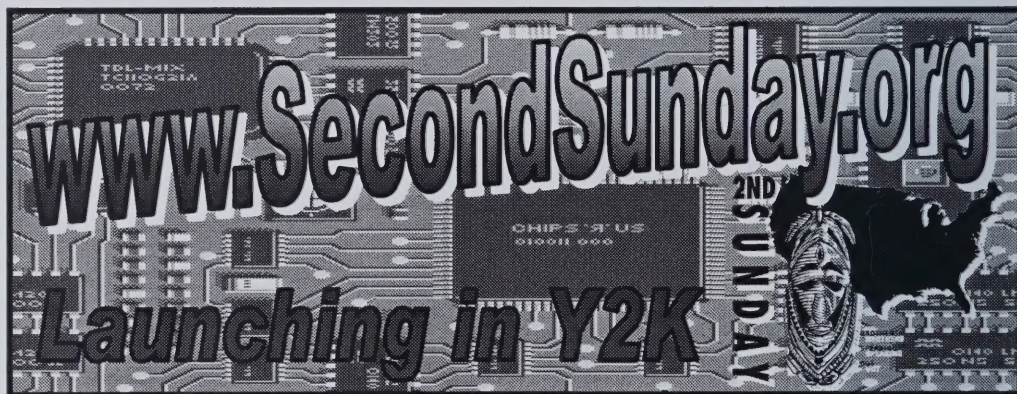
A real friend knows that it's not a friendship until after you've had a fight.

A simple friend expects you to always be there for them.

A real friend expects to always be there for you.

Now you must ask yourself, what kind of friend(s) do you have - simple or real? I know that the five best, best, best friends in the world somehow are mine (Chesley, John, Judy, Amybeth & Lee).

Hope all is well. ■



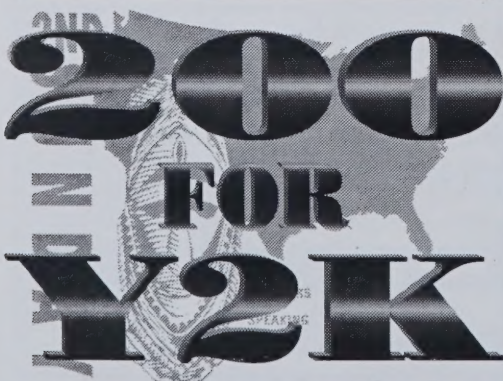
PRESS RELEASE

COMMUNITY NOTICE - UPCOMING RETREAT FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR

Southerners On New Ground (SONG) announces its third Retreat for lesbian, two-spirited, transgendered, gay, bisexual, same-gender-loving People of Color throughout the Southeast (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia). The Retreat will be held the weekend of February 25-27th, 2000 in Birmingham, Alabama. We are inviting individuals who are involved in anti-oppression, social change work. We are working to make this multi-racial, multi-gender, multi-ethnic gathering safe and inclusive for all participants. We will fellowship, exchange stories about our lives and experiences, engage in interactive workshops and address the issues most relevant to us and the work we do.

Founded in the vision of Black and white southern lesbians, SONG's general purpose is to help integrate work against racism, sexism and economic justice into lesbian/gay/trans organizing and work against homophobia into freedom struggles to build progressive movement across the south. Our work resources local organizing, provides training and skills building, connects dots between issues, connects organizations and people, and models coalition links around race.

For more info about the upcoming Retreat and/or SONG, please call Co-Director Craig Washington in our Atlanta office at 404-249-8788; e-mail song4cw@aol.com



BROTHERS SPEAKING OUT

2ND
SUNDAY



**PROUD!
GIFTED!
BLACK!**

**FOR SAME-GENGER-LOVING MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR JOIN TODAY
CALL (404) 325-7321 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

2ND READ
NEWSMAGAZINE
For Brothers, About Brothers

September 1999
Vol. 4
No. 4
SECOND SUNDAY • Post Office Box 78705 • Atlanta, Georgia 30357-2705 • (404) 325-7321
URL: <http://www.SecondSunday.org> • E-MAIL: PublicRelations@SecondSunday.org

Special Anniversary Issue

THE SHATTERING MEN
The Evolution of Self

You ought to be in pictures...

ride 99
to Royalty:
claiming Our Heritage

...and 2ND READ is offering you, our Brothers, just that opportunity to grace the cover and pages of our January, Millenium 2000 Issue.

CALLING all Brothers who are READY for the Millenium!!!! 2ND READ wants you to be a part of our January 2000 Issue Photo Shoot. The issue will feature "The SECOND SUNDAY MEN of the MILLENIUM", celebrating and showcasing the pride and spectrum of our cultural, educational, political, spiritual, and socio-economic diversity.

We are interested in essays and 'Bio' information from Brothers who are willing to share your goals, aspirations and hopes for the new millenium. The deadline for submissions is Friday, December 17, 1999.

Meet us for the Photo Shoot at 2:30 PM on Saturday, December 18th at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, 450 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta (at the eternal flame). For more information please contact Darrol C. De Andre, Director of Public Relations at (770) 435-5860 or email PublicRelations@SecondSunday.org

IN THE LIFE

ITLA

ATLANTA

IN THE LIFE ATLANTA
Celebrating

The Black Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, Gay Community
come join the team in
building bridges building community

contact us: 404-872-6410
visit our web site: <http://www.inthelifeatl.com>

STACEY BLAKE, MSW, LCSW

psychotherapist

individuals • couples • family • and group therapy

404-627-7927

(404) 367-0990

FAX (404) 367-0970

BRAZIL
FINE ITALIAN MENSWEAR

CARL ANTHONY

1923-A PEACHTREE ROAD
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30309

2ND SUNDAY

2ND READ
for brothers • about brothers

SECOND SUNDAY • NEWSMAGAZINE • \$18.00 /YR.

Subscribe to Second Sunday of Atlanta's 2ND READ
The premier newsletter for brothers, about brothers and
the community "in the life". Each issue will be
DISCRETELY mailed directly to you, hot off the presses.

\$2.00 - single copy • \$18.00 - annual (12 issues)

Special Offer

\$15.00 Annual Subscription

[for a limited time only - thru December 31, 1999]

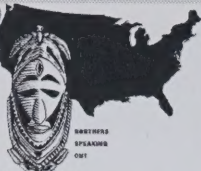
Send check or money order to:



SECOND SUNDAY
2ND READ Subscriptions
Post Office Box 78705
Atlanta, Georgia 30357-2705

name _____
address _____
city/state/zip _____
telephone _____
e-mail _____

2ND
SUNDAY



sponsored by
SECOND SUNDAY

my BROTHER keeper

PRESENTING

- Your confidentiality will be respected
- Every 3rd Sunday
- 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Atlanta Lambda Center
828 West Peachtree Street, Suite 208

*Discussion and support
for Brothaz in the life
(same sex attracted Black
Men) 24 and younger*

*A confidential meeting to
talk about what's real
and to create a
supportive environment*

**Keiron Williams,
Co-Director**

**Kevin Bynes,
Co-Director**

For more information contact: 404-325-7321

40 - PLUS

EXPERIENCE OUR MONTHLY DISCUSSION MEETINGS FOR
**SAME-GENDER-LOVING
AFRICAN-AMERICAN
MEN**

**4TH SUNDAYS
4:00 - 6:00 PM**

**This is a discussion
meeting for 40-Plus
members.**

*The monthly forums examine issues
important to men forty years of age and
older.*

*Membership is open to Same-Gender-
Loving Men of African Descent over the
age of thirty-five.*

*Meetings are held on the fourth Sunday
of each month.*

2ND
SUNDAY



sponsored by SECOND SUNDAY

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
(404) 325-7321**